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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/849,096	05/04/2001	Olav Solgaard	UC97-156-8	1934

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EXAMINER

LEE, JOHN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2874

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/849,096

Applicant(s)

Olav Solgaard et al.

Examiner

John D. Lee

Art Unit

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 31, 2001

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 31-64 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☒ Claim(s) 31-64 is/are allowed.

6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:

- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 6

20) ☐ Other:

Applicant's communication submitted on October 31, 2001, has been carefully studied by the Examiner. The arguments advanced therein, considered together with the amendments made to the claims, are persuasive and the rejections based upon prior art made of record in the previous Office action are withdrawn. Applicant's provisional application has now been reviewed, and it has been determined that applicant is indeed entitled to the priority date of February 13, 1997. U.S. Patent 6,212,309 to Nguyen et al is thus removed as a reference against the claims of the present application. With respect to Wu (U.S. Patent 5,581,643), this reference does not disclose or suggest the wavelength separation aspect of an optical switch which is now specifically set forth in the claims. All of applicant's claims are now allowable.

Claims 31-64 are allowed for the reasons stated in the preceding paragraph. There is no known prior art any more relevant than the prior art of record in this application.

The prior art documents submitted by applicant in the Information Disclosure Statement mailed on October 31, 2001, have all been considered and made of record (note the attached copy of form PTO-1449).

The present application is one of a large number of related applications having similar claims. In addition to the copending applications mentioned on page 1 of the specification herein, the Examiner is also aware of copending applications Serial Nos. 09/849,096 (filed May 4, 2001) and 09/928,237 (filed August 10, 2001). There may be other related applications unknown to the Examiner. Accordingly, in order for the Examiner to accurately assess all potential double patenting situations, applicant is required to submit the following in response to this Office action: a copy of all claims presently pending in each of the above identified copending related applications (as well as

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any other copending related applications known to applicant). Applicant is *not* required to submit a copy of claims which are no longer pending (i.e. canceled) in these applications.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters: the requirement set forth in the immediately preceding paragraph.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning the merits of this communication should be directed to Examiner John D. Lee at telephone number (703) 308-4886. The Examiner's normal work schedule is Tuesday through Friday, 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Any inquiry of a general or clerical nature (i.e. a request for a missing form or paper, etc.) should be directed to the Technology Center 2800 receptionist at telephone number (703) 308-0956, to the technical support staff supervisor (Team 2) at telephone number (703) 308-3072, or to the Technology Center 2800 Customer Service Office at telephone number (703) 306-3329.


John D. Lee
Primary Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2874